



FORM - 12116
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NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

11 July 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR : Chief, Development Branch, SPS-DB/P

SUBJECT : Simultaneous CORONA/IDEALIST Coverage

1. PURPOSE: Simultaneous coverage of typical intelligence targets in the ZI by CORONA and IDEALIST would permit a critical analysis of the capabilities and limitations of these collection systems. For example, a precise aircraft count in conjunction with identification by IDEALIST would produce a yardstick or key by which the information content of CORONA could be compared.

2. APPROACH: One of the next CORONA "engineering" passes over the ZI will be carefully programmed to permit coordination with [] for an IDEALIST mission over the same area at the same time. The IDEALIST personnel need not know the reason for the mission, but should be prepared for a general "test" ahead of time. When the CORONA orbit and on-off points are established, last minute corrections to the flight lines can be supplied to []. From a quick look, it appears that one CORONA engineering pass will be close to []. [] These areas should produce very good target information for analysis and is within easy reach of Edwards AFB.

3. GENERAL: This item has been verbally initiated among interested Headquarters personnel and is being planned for the next CORONA mission.

SIGNED

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